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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/605,640

10/15/2003

David Morrow

WLI 1092 PUS

2639

27256

7590

09/07/2004

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EXAMINER

CHAMBERS, MICHAEL S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,640

Applicant(s)

MORROW ET AL

Examiner

Mike Chambers

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3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities:

The claim is a sentence fragment with no claim limitations. It is assumed the limitation should include "and form a one-piece integral frame as claimed in dependent claim 11.

Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 3: "integrally" should be --integral--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-7, 9-14, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brine et al (US 20020160865 A1). Brine et al discloses

a pair of opposing sidewalls each having a top end and a bottom end, a base portion extending between and connecting said bottom ends of said pair of opposing sidewalls (fig 5a), a scoop portion extending between and connecting said top ends of said pair of opposing sidewalls a pair of opposing flaps (202) extending generally

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inwardly from said pair of opposing sidewalls toward a centerline of the lacrosse head; and a netting coupled to said pair of opposing flaps, wherein said pair of opposing flaps is utilized for channeling a lacrosse ball for improving retention of the into a decreased pocket size area throwing accuracy and enhancing ball retention lacrosse head (fig 5a).

As to claims 2, 10 and 18 : Brine et al discloses a plurality of string holes (fig 5a).

As to claims 3, 11 and 19 : Brine et al discloses a pair of sidewalls, base portion and scoop (fig 5a).

As to claim 4 : Brine et al discloses an integral sidewall and flap (fig 5a, 4:paragraph 50).

As to claim 5 : Brine et al discloses a plurality of string holes (fig 5a, 208, although not clearly disclosed, a traditional stringing would include holes for attachment).

As to claims 6 and 13 : Brine et al discloses contoured flaps (fig 5a).

As to claims 7 and 14 : Brine et al discloses a traditional pocket (fig 5a, paragraph 50).

As to claims 9 and 16 : See claim 1 rejection. The flaps would tend to direct the ball to the base of the head.

As to claims 12 and 20 : Brine et al discloses a plastic material (2:paragraph 34).

As to claim 17 : Brine et al discloses an elastic deformable material (3:paragraph 37).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brine et al. The number of thongs used is a matter of design choice. The specification provides no unexpected results in using less than 4 thongs. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have selected an appropriate number of thongs in order to easily throw the ball.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Chambers whose telephone number is 703-306-5516. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich can be reached on 703-308-1513. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

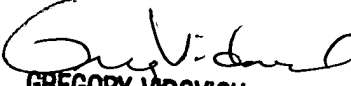
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

6506132 *US202/0160865*

Michael Chambers
Examiner
Art Unit 3711

September 2, 2004


GREGORY VDOVICH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700